

SENATE RESOLUTION 97

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lieutenant James Edward Earnest of Haywood County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Lieutenant James Edward Earnest; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Earnest was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant James Earnest served with acumen and alacrity as a volunteer firefighter and first responder for the Haywood County District 9 Volunteer Fire Department, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, serving with the fire department for more than twenty years, Lieutenant Earnest began his career as a firefighter in 1987, right after the volunteer department's formation; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the first Emergency Medical Responder class that Haywood County offered more than twenty-five years ago, James Earnest responded to fires, wrecks, and medical calls; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Earnest's tenure with the fire department lasted until his retirement on October 13, 2009; and

WHEREAS, James Earnest's long history of hard work most notably began when he was employed to repair tractors at a garage, shortly before he began farming as a sharecropper in 1958; and

WHEREAS, soon after, he began raising pigs and continued his work as a farmer until his retirement from farming in 1985; and

WHEREAS, after deciding to get out of the farming business, Lieutenant Earnest went on to work at Brownsville Equipment as a small engine repairman until his retirement in 2000; and

WHEREAS, James Earnest was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of Doris Moon, his devoted wife of sixty-one years whom he met when he was sixteen, and was a proud parent, grandparent, and great-grandparent; and

WHEREAS, James Earnest leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Lieutenant James Edward Earnest, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Lieutenant Earnest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.